Docket Number: 030268-0283720 Client Reference: 4024US/CNT1 PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

SASCHA DOEKEL, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: 09/966,742

Examiner: D. Ramirez

Filed: October 1, 2001

Confirmation No.: 3608

For: MICROBIOLOGICAL PRODUCTION METHOD FOR A-L-ASPARTYL

L-PHENYLALANINE

January 9, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

Please charge Deposit Account 03-3975 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account 033975 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicated copies of this paper are attached.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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